

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the closest prior art as cited teaches many compositions with acrylic polymers and isocyanate crosslinkers, but nowhere does the prior art teach or render prima facie obvious the reaction of the crosslinker specifically with the acrylamide functionality on the polymer. The prior art teaches, rather, that there must be other functionalities on the polymer and those other functionalities are used for crosslinking. This requirement of the claims in combination with the molecular weight requirement renders the claimed compositions both novel and unobvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bernard Lipman whose telephone number is 571-272-1105. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5 Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wu can be reached on 571-272-1114. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Bernard Lipman/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1796

BL/hs